

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBO-02 CU-02 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 H-02

PRS-01 PA-01 A-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /048 W  
----- 074770

R 170850Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1227  
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 0721

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED OPENING OF USIS LIBRARY

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, WE NOTED TO DIPAGENCY SOME TIME AGO THAT, IN CONNECTION WITH AMBASSADOR'S PRESENCE IN LENINGRAD ON MAY 22 FOR METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OPENING, WE PLANNED TO HAVE "OFFICIAL OPENING" OF P AND C LIBRARY AT CONSULATE GENERAL. DIPAGENCY WAS AT THE TIME NONCOMMittal BUT OBVIOUSLY INTERESTED IN WHO WE THOUGHT MIGHT VISIT LIBRARY.

2. AT CONGEN RECEPTION MAY 16 FOR ADMIRAL LANGILLE AND VISITING U.S. NAVAL SHIPS, HEAD OF DIPAGENCY POPOV TOOK ME ASIDE TO SAY HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY MID TO TELL ME THAT WE COULD OPEN LIBRARY BUT ON CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WAS "ONLY FOR USE OF CONSULATE EMPLOYEES". I EXPRESSED ASTONISHMENT, NOTED THAT VARIOUS SOVIET OFFICIALS HAD ALREADY VISITED LIBRARY AND BENEFITED FROM ITS RESOURCES, AND ADDED THAT IT WAS IN ANY CASE OPEN TO ANYONE WHO CHOSE TO COME IN, AS FAR AS WE WERE CONCERNED. POPOV MERELY REPEATED WHAT HE HAD SAID BEFORE AND REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO DISCUSSION. IN THE END HE ONLY ADDED THAT QUESTION OF INFORMATION CENTERS OPEN TO PUBLIC WOULD HAVE TO BE DECIDED IN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON.

3. I BELIEVE IT IS BETTER THAT WE THUS LEAVE OUR P&C LIBRARY IN ITS PRESENT INDETERMINATE, ALBEIT FUNCTIONING STATUS IN CONFIDENTIAL

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VIEW OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON ITS "OFFICIAL" OPENING. THERE IS

NOTHING TO BE GAINED AND COULD WELL BE LOST IN

ATTEMPTING TO PROCEED WITH A FORMAL OPENING WHICH SOVIET OFFICIALS  
PROBABLY WOULD NOT ATTEND. ACCORDINGLY, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD  
SHELVE OUR PLAN FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE TIME BEING  
AND RESURRECT IT WHEN AND AS CIRCUMSTANCES ARE MORE PROPITIOUS.

NEUBERT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LIBRARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2003  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED OPENING OF USIS LIBRARY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SCUL, UR, US  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006